



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

Two predators arrested by ICE for possession of child pornography

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico—Two predators were arrested here this morning by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents.

Victor Rivera-Milan, 35, and Carlos Rivera-Maldonado, 39, were arrested at their respective residences in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico following an ICE investigation into their alleged involvement in the possession and distribution of child pornography in violation of Title 18, United States Code (USC), Section 2252(a)(4)(B).

On Feb. 24, 2006, ICE agents executed a search warrant at Rivera-Milan's home. The search led to the seizure of six computers, 20 hard-drives, several compact discs, videotapes and other electronic media. A forensic analysis of the items seized revealed the existence of over 1400 photographs and 400 videos of child pornography.

Rivera-Maldonado gave consent to a search of his home on Jan. 23, 2006. ICE special agents discovered child pornography on his computer and several electronic media items.

"Possessing, manufacturing and distributing child pornography is a very serious crime," said Lydia St. John-Mellado, special agent-in-charge of ICE in Puerto Rico. "Predators should know that ICE, in partnership with other organizations, has the resources to identify child pornographers and those who hurt our children. We will not rest until we bring them to justice."

Manufacturing, distributing and possessing child pornography carries a penalty of 30, 20 or 10 years in prison, respectively. The manufacturing of child pornography also carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years.

The public is reminded that a criminal complaint and/or indictment contain only charges and are not evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent and are entitled to a fair trial and the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

These arrests were part of a nationwide initiative known as Operation Predator. Operation Predator protects our children from sexual predators, including those who travel across continents to have sex with minors. Internet child pornographers and criminal alien sex offenders and child traffickers are also a priority for ICE. Since the initiative was launched in July of 2003, there have been more than 6,500 individuals arrested nationwide.

ICE encourages anyone who wants to report suspicious activity of suspected child predators and suspicious activity through our toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. Investigators staff this hotline around the clock.

Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.